

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 7-10, 12, 14-15, 17-18, and 20-31 are now pending in this application. In the October 6, 2004 office action, claims 1-4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,203,102 to Hydes et al. (hereinafter "*Hydes*"). Claims 1-6, 9-13, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,784,069 to Daniel et al. (hereinafter "*Daniel*") in view of *Hydes*. Claims 5-6, 16 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being obvious over *Hydes*. Claim 11 was objected to as being a substantial duplicate of claim 10. Claims 14 and 15 were allowed and claims 7-8, 17-18, and 20-21 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, the applicant cancels claims 1-6, 11, 13, 16, and 19; amends claims 7-10, 12, 17-18, and 20-21; and adds new claims 22-31. Accordingly, all claim rejections are now moot. The applicant has rewritten objected to claims 7-8, 17-18, and 20-21 in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. For this reason, claims 7-8, 17-18, and 20-21 are in condition for immediate allowance. The applicant has amended dependent claims 9, 10, and 12 to depend from allowable independent claim 7. Further, the applicant has added new dependent claims 22-31 which depend from allowable independent claims 8, 17-18, and 20-21. For at least the reason that claims 22-31 depend from allowable independent claims 8, 17-18, and 20-21, dependent claims 22-31 are allowable over the prior art of record. For these reasons, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and immediate allowance of this application.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and reexamination of the application and allowance of the claims at an early date is solicited. If the Examiner has any questions or comments concerning this matter, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's undersigned attorney at the number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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